Mr. Chairman, I thank the gentleman from Maryland, who is my friend, for the tone of his remarks, and I would assure him that when I was a member of the United States Air Force, it may have been by statute, it may have been by regulation, but members of the service were prohibited from making contributions, and we were still good citizens

Mr. Chairman, I regret the tone that this debate has taken tonight. I am looking out at the faces of my colleagues. I know them, they know me. I would hope they would not impugn a racist motive to an amendment that I have offered on several occasions in this body and has been adopted overwhelmingly on a bipartisan basis.

This is an issue of foreign campaign influence, and I regret that tonight there have been attempts to turn it into a minority issue or a racial issue, or an immigration issue, because it most certainly is not. It is about the fact that really and truly, abuses have occurred, and this legislation has been adopted by this body three times already to address those abuses. It simply makes the statement and would make the statement in the form of the Shays-Meehan bill that the election of Federal officials is the duty of United States citizens, and that is all the amendment does.

I urge the adoption of the amendment.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Chairman, for the purposes of closing debate on this important amendment, I yield the remaining time to the cosponsor of this legislation, the distinguished gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. SHAYS).

Mr. SHAYS. Mr. Chairman, I thank the gentleman for yielding me this time.

I had fainted unless I believed to see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living, and I see this goodness in this House, and I see a little anger, and I see little charges. My wife and I got to serve in the Peace Corps. It was the best 2 years of our lives, serving in another country and learning another culture.

George Bush gets it. He would oppose this amendment. He knows we live in a pluralistic society, and he knows our party is not pluralistic. Look at us. We are good people, but we do not look like that, and some day my hope, some day my hope is that we will look like that, but amendments like this make it very difficult for people of other cultures to want to be a part of our party.

This amendment passed in the past because we confused foreign nationals and the soft money they gave to legal permanent residents who were giving legal contributions, and we got caught up in all of that soft money given by foreign nationals. This is not about foreign nationals. It is about legal permanent residents being allowed to participate in our government.

Mr. WU. Mr. Chairman, this amendment is more than a poison pill to campaign finance reform; it is a poison pill to our Constitution—to our civil rights.

There is nothing in this Constitution that says that the protections of the Bill of Rights extend only to United States citizens. Throughout it there is reference to people, not just citizens. There have been court decisions time and time again that have extended the protections of the Constitution to all persons living within the United States.

We have had a great problem in the Congress making a distinction between illegal residents and legal permanent residents. Legal permanent residents have gone through all the processes. They have spent years to even come to the United States. They have come here with the purpose of being lawful, participating people in this great democracy. They play important civic roles and pay federal, state and local taxes. They serve in the military and are deeply affected by political decisions.

Nearly 20,000 legal permanent residents are now serving voluntarily in the military and playing key roles in our nation's defense against terrorism. Moreover, more than 20 percent of the Congressional Medal of Honor recipients in our nation's wars have been legal immigrants, many of whom later became citizens of this country.

Why are we afraid of these legal residents? We should not be. We should be welcoming them as participants in this democracy.

Let us not make a mockery of our Bill of Rights, of our Constitution, and adopt an amendment that says we will let you live in our country, but we will not allow you to participate.

Do not disgrace the Constitution by supporting this kind of amendment.

The CHAIRMAN pro tempore. All time for debate has expired.

The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER).

The question was taken; and the Chairman pro tempore announced that the noes appeared to have it.

RECORDED VOTE

Mr. WICKER. Mr. Chairman, I demand a recorded vote.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 160, noes 268, not voting 6, as follows:

[Roll No. 30]

AYES-160

Aderholt Combest Green (WI) Akin Cooksev Grucci Gutknecht Armey Cox Bachus Crane Hansen Crenshaw Baker Hart Hastings (WA) Ballenger Culberson Barr Cunningham Hayes Bartlett Davis, Jo Ann Hayworth Barton Hefley Bereuter DeLav Herger Biggert DeMint Hilleary Doolittle Bilirakis Hobson Blunt Duncan Hoekstra. Boehner Holden Dunn Bono Ehrlich Hostettler Boozman Everett Hulshof Brown (SC) Flake Hunter Hyde Burr Forbes Isakson Buver Fossella Callahan Gallegly Istook Jenkins Calvert Gekas Johnson, Sam Camp Gibbons Gillmor Jones (NC) Cantor Goode Keller Goodlatte Kelly Chabot Chambliss Kennedy (MN) Goss Coble Graham Kerns Kingston Collins Graves

Knollenberg Largent Latham Lewis (CA) Lewis (KY) Linder Lucas (OK) Manzullo McCrery McHugh McInnis McKeon Mica. Miller, Dan Miller, Gary Miller, Jeff Nethercutt Nev Northup Norwood Nussle Otter Oxlev

Peterson (PA) Petri Pickering Pitts Pryce (OH) Putnam Radanovich Rehberg Reynolds Rogers (KY) Rogers (MI) Rohrabacher Royce Ryun (KS) Saxton Schaffer Schrock Sensenbrenner Sessions Shadegg Shaw Sherwood Shimkus Shuster Simpson

Smith (NJ) Smith (TX) Stearns Stump Sununu Tancredo Tauzin Taylor (MS) Taylor (NC) Thomas Tiahrt Tiberi Toomey Upton Vitter Walden Watkins (OK) Watts (OK) Weldon (FL) Whitfield Wicker Wilson (SC) Young (AK)

Smith (MI)

NOES-268

Abercrombie Etheridge Ackerman Evans Allen Andrews Fattah Baca Ferguson Baird Filner Baldacci Fletcher Baldwin Foley Ford Barcia Barrett Frank Frelinghuysen Bass Becerra Frost Bentsen Ganske Berkley Gephardt Berman Gilchrest Berry Gilman Bishop Gonzalez Blagojevich Gordon Blumenauer Granger Green (TX) Boehlert Bonilla. Greenwood Bonior Gutierrez Borski Boswell Hall (TX) Boucher Harman Hastings (FL) Boyd Brady (PA) Hill Hilliard Brown (FL) Brown (OH) Hinchey Bryant Hinoiosa Burton Hoeffel Capito Holt Honda. Capps Capuano Hooley Cardin Horn Carson (IN) Houghton Carson (OK) Hoyer Castle Inslee Clav Israel Clayton Issa Jackson (IL) Clement Clyburn Jackson-Lee Condit (TX) Convers Jefferson Costello John Johnson (CT) Coyne Cramer Johnson (IL) Johnson, E. B. Crowley Jones (OH) Cummings Davis (CA) Kaniorski Davis (FL) Kaptur Kennedy (RI) Davis (IL) Davis, Tom Kildee Kilpatrick DeFazio DeGette Kind (WI) Delahunt King (NY) DeLauro Kirk Kleczka Deutsch Diaz-Balart Kolbe Kucinich Dicks Dingell LaFalce Doggett LaHood Doolev Lampson Doyle Langevin Dreier Lantos Edwards Larsen (WA) Ehlers Larson (CT) Emerson LaTourette Engel Leach English Lee

Levin

Eshoo

Lewis (GA) Lipinski LoBiondo Lofgren Lowey Lucas (KY) Luther Lynch Maloney (CT) Maloney (NY) Markey Mascara Matheson Matsui McCarthy (MO) McCarthy (NY) McCollum McDermott McGovern McIntyre McKinney McNulty Meehan Meek (FL) Meeks (NY) Menendez Millender-McDonald Miller, George

Moore Moran (KS) Moran (VA) Morella Murtha Nadler Napolitano Neal Oberstar Obey Olver Ortiz Osborne Owens Pallone Pascrel1 Pastor Paul Payne Pelosi Peterson (MN)

Mink

Mollohan

Phelps Platts Pombo Pomerov Portman Price (NC) Quinn Rahall Ramstad Rangel Regula Reyes Rivers Rodriguez Roemer Ros-Lehtinen Ross Rothman Roybal-Allard